

REMARKS

This paper is filed in response to the Office Action mailed 30th June 2006. Claims 1-20 were pending in the application. Claims 15, 17 and 19 have been amended, claims 16 and 18 have been canceled, claims 21 and 22 have been added. Therefore, claims 1 to 15, 17 and 19 to 22 are now pending in the application and are submitted for reconsideration.

Rejection of Claims 15 and 17:

Claims 15 and 17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 (b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No.6,497,107 issued to Maisotsenko.

In response to these rejections and as suggested by the Examiner, claims 15 has been amended to include the features of claim 16 and claim 17 has been amended to include the features of claims 15 and 18. It is understood that the resulting independent claims 15 and 17 are allowable.

In view of the above, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejections and allowance of claims 15 and 17.

Objections to Claims 19 and 20:

Dependent claims 19 and 20 depend from claim 17 and are thus also allowable as being dependent on an allowable independent claim.

In view of the above, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the objection and allowance of claims 19 and 20.

New Claims:

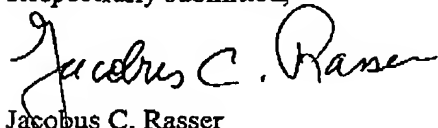
Claims 21 and 22 have been added in order to more fully claim the subject matter of Applicants' invention. Support for the new claims can be found in the original specification as filed in the paragraphs [0015] and [0038]. Claims 21 and 22 are understood to be allowable as being dependent on allowable independent claims 1 and 17 respectively.

In view of the above, Applicants respectfully request entry and allowance of claims 21 and 22 by the Examiner.

Any extension of time that may be deemed necessary to further the prosecution of this application is hereby requested. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 08-3038, referencing the docket number shown above.

The Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned by telephone at the number given below in order to resolve any questions.

Respectfully submitted,



Jacobus C. Rasser

Reg. No. 37,043

Date: September 22nd, 2006

Customer No. 32,894

Howrey LLP

2941 Fairview Park Drive, Suite 200

Falls Church, VA 22042

Fax: 202 383-7195

Tel: 9-011-31-20-5924411